Government to give a long term extension of 10 years to the Monopoly Cotton Purchase Scheme of Maharashtra, instead of the usual annual extension;

(b) if so, what is the reaction of Government thereto; and

(c) whether Government will give this demand long term extension to the said scheme in view of the success of the scheme in establishing the cotton prices and the immense work done by the scheme for the agriculture in Maharashtra?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Government has extended the term of the Monopoly Cotton Purchase Scheme of Maharashtra for a period of one year i.e., from 1st July, 1993 to 30th June, 1994. The Government has not taken any decision regarding further extension.

Consumption of Cotton by Textile Mills

981. DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) what was the total consumption of cotton by the textile mills in the country during the last three years;

(b) what was the total consumption of cotton by the handloom industry during the same period;

(c) what was the consumption by the powerloom industry during the same period;

(d) how does this compare with the production of cotton in our country during the last three years;

(e) what is the projected production and consumption of cotton by the above sectors, sector-wise; and

(f) what is the policy regarding import and export of cotton?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) Total consumption of cotton by textile mills during the last three cotton years (Sept.-Aug.) has been as under:

(Qty: in lakh bales of 170 kg each)

Cotton years	Cotton Consumption
1990-91	108.00
1991-92	103.00
1992-93	*117.01

*(includes 4.20 lakh bales taken as consumption by small scale spinning units

(b) and (c) The handloom and powerloom industries are not consuming any cotton directly but only cottton yarn in hank and cone form. The estimated quantity of cotton yearn consumed by these two sectors along with the corresponding requirement of cotton for production of that much quantum of yarn during the last 3 years had been as under

(Qty: in million kgs.)

	Handloom	Industry	Powerloom	Industry
Financial year	Cotton yarn consumed	Cotton requirement	Cotton yarn consumed	Cotton requirement
1990-91	342	400	753	831
1991-92	328	384	719	841
1992-93	348	407	806	943

(d) The production of cotton during the last three cotton seasons, as estimated by Cotton Advisory Board (CAB) were as under:—

(Qty. in lakh bales of 170 kg each)

Cotton Year	Production of Cotton
1990-91	117.00
1991-92	119.00
1992-93	135.00

(e) The production of cotton during the cotton season 1993-94 has been provisionally put at 125 lakh bales of 170 kg. each. The consumption of cotton by mills non-mills, sector etc., (excluding exports) has been projected as under:

(Qty. in lakh bales of 170 kg each)

Mill Consumption	113.00
Non-mill Consumption	8.00
Small spinners' Consumption	4.20
TOTAL	125.20

(f) Under the EXIM policy import of cotton is in the negative list, however, exporting mills can import cotton under the Advance Licensing Scheme, for the purpose of export production. On 14.2.94, as a special measure, after assessing the demand and supply position of cotton and noticing the shortage in the availability of raw cotton and the consequent increase in the domestic prices, the Government has, in Public interest, allowed import of 5 lakh bales of raw cotton by the spinning mills.

In pursuance of the long term policy for export of cotton, the Government releases 5 lakh bales of cotton at the commencement of every cotton season subject to the adjustments being made after detailed crop estimates are available.

Unproductive Textile Mills under NTC

982. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the number and location of unproductive textile mills under National Textile Corporation;

(b) the number of textile workers thus rendered idle together with the monthly wage bill;

(c) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to utilise the service of these workers; and

(d) if so, details of the scheme likely to be implemented in this matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) and (b) The names, location, number of idle workers and average monthly wage bill of unoperational mills under NTC are given in the Statement attached, (*See* below)

(c) and (d) The workers rendered surplus due to restructuring to phase out the uneconomic and unviable activities in NTC have been offered a Voluntary Retirement Scheme. The Scheme provides for exgratia payment equivalent to 1 1/2 month emoluments for each completed year of service or the monthly emoluments at the time of voluntary retirement multiplied by the remaining months of service before normal date of retirement, whichever is lower, in addition to the normal terminal benefits. A Rehabilitation Fund with a corpus of Rs. 50.00 crores has also been created for the purpose of training and re-deployment of workers of NTC who have availed of voluntary retirement. Schemes have been formulated to enable the rationalised workers to set up powerlooms/reeling units. A production incentive of 25% to 33% of the capital costs of the schemes is provided after the looms/reeling units are run successfully for 6 months to make the venture more profitable.